

## MOUNTAINS RECREATION & CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Los Angeles River Center and Gardens 570 West Avenue Twenty-six, Suite 100 Los Angeles, California 90065 Phone (323) 221-9944 Fax (323) 221-9934

## **MEMORANDUM**

**To**: The Governing Board

FROM: Joseph T. Edmiston, FAICP, Executive Officer

**DATE:** June 1, 2005

SUBJECT: Agenda Item V(e): Consideration of resolution authorizing entering into agreements or memorandums of understanding with the City of Los Angeles and the County of Los Angeles to implement the Aliso Wash - Limekiln Creek Restoration Project at Vanalden Park, Northridge.

<u>Staff Recommendation</u>: That the Governing Board adopt the attached resolution authorizing entering into agreements or memorandums of understanding with the City of Los Angeles and the County of Los Angeles to implement the Aliso Wash - Limekiln Creek Restoration Project at Vanalden Park, Northridge.

<u>Background</u>: The Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) submitted a preliminary grant application for the Aliso Wash - Limekiln Creek Restoration project for Proposition 50 Chapter 8 funding (attached). The subject project has thus far been moderately favored in terms of its eligibility for Chapter 8 funding. Part of that reduced ranking has been staff inability to demonstrate site control. The final grant application deadline is July 15, 2005. Staff must increase the project readiness as much as possible by that time in order to have any chance of being funded. The Upper Los Angeles River Watershed Management Group, of which the MRCA is supposedly a primary member, will submit a batch of grant applications to the Department of Water Resources.

The proposed project would occur entirely on land owned by either the Los Angeles County Watershed Protection Division or by the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks. Staff is pursuing letters and agreements from both agencies to demonstrate their willing participation in this MRCA driven project. The proposed action would authorize staff to enter into any agreements for this purpose.

The attached aerial photo shows the project location and park context at the confluence of Aliso Wash and Limekiln Creek in the upper Los Angeles River watershed. Vanalden Park and the Wilkenson Multipurpose Senior Center operated by the City are integral to the proposed 10-acre project.